

MR. HAGERTY: Yes, it was from Pearl Harbor through one of the Straits -- I don't know the name of it -- of the Aleutian Islands, through the Bering Strait, up past Point Barrow, through the Ice Cap, and out into the sea off Greenland.

Q. Is this known as Operation Ice Cap?

MR. HAGERTY: Northwest Passage. You can see the distances in miles there -- I said 11,200 London to Tokyo. 6,300 via the Pole. Saving 4,900 miles. These white lines on this map are the existing commercial lanes. This dotted line is the route the ship actually took so that we could pick up the Skipper -- (indicating on the map) -- by helicopter last night and then fly him in today. And I will bring him in, in a few minutes.

This new distance is 6,700 miles. The old distance was 9,500 miles.

Q. From where to where?

MR. HAGERTY: Honolulu to the British Isles.

The Secretary of the Navy will be here, and some of our Admirals. And John McCone, and Lewis Strauss. I will have them come in, and then the President will bring the Commander in.

Mrs. Anderson also. She was flown down from New London last night. She did not know why.

On board the ship last night, or after they passed the Pole, the ship's printing press and the Captain got up some factual things on the NAUTILUS. I regret that I have only 20 copies, that's all they have printed and I will give these to the wire men and the networks, to the men normally assigned to cover here.

In that fact sheet the Captain has got quite a lot of interesting facts on this trip. Also I would like to talk later to the networks. He did tape some stuff on board the ship, on the reading of orders and other things -- sonar soundings, and so on.

(At 1:58 p.m., the President came in with Commander Anderson, and Captain Auran read both Citations)

THE PRESIDENT: (To the Commander, on the first Citation) It's been a long time since I've had such a pleasant privilege. My very, very best congratulations.

(To the Commander, on the second Citation): I hope that you will act as my representative in presenting this Unit Citation to the crew, and when you meet them, I also hope you will give them my very special congratulations to all hands.

COMMANDER ANDERSON: It will be an honor to do that, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Congratulations, indeed.

SECRETARY GATES: This is the first time a Presidential Citation has ever been given in peacetime.

THE PRESIDENT: I couldn't think of a better time to do it.